



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Borough of Crewe

BY

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.,
Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of
Isolation Hospital and Maternity Home,
Medical Officer in Charge of
Maternity and Child
Welfare.

1941

BOROUGH OF CREWE.



Health Committee 1941.

Chairman.

ALDERMAN J. SMITH, J.P.



Members :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR F. FARR, J.P.)

ALDERMAN R. DUTTON.

" W. R. FOULKES, J.P.

" W. C. WHITE, J.P.

COUNC. A. BLOSS.

COUNC. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD

" A. H. BRICKER.

POWELL, J.P., C.C.

" J. B. HERRING.

" E. T. ROBERTS.

" H. J. LAWTON.

" C. WELCH.

" J. A. MADELEY, J.P.

" Mrs. F. E. WHITE.

" H. PEARCE.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee 1941,

Chairman.

COUNCILLOR Mrs. F. E. WHITE.

Members :

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR F. FARR, J.P.)

ALDERMAN F. BOTT, M.B.E., J.P.

" R.DUTTON.

" J. SMITH, J.P.

" W. C. WHITE, J.P.

COUNC. R. BARNETT.

COUNC. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD

" A. BLOSS.

POWELL, J.P., C.C.

" A. H. BRICKER.

" W. RIGBY.

" J. B. HERRING.

" E. T. ROBERTS.

" J. H. L. JONES .

" Mrs.E. THEWLIS, J.P.

" H. J. LAWTON.

" C. WELCH.

" J. A. MADELEY, J.P.

" H. PEARCE.

" R. PEACH.

Co-opted Members.

MRS. ANDRESS.

" BLOSS.

" BUXTON.

" BENNETT.

" PALLITT.

" PARKINSON.

" WARDLE.

Public Health Services.

A—Medical.

- J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of the Maternity Home (whole time).
- CHRISTINA R. LAING, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer, Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.
- A. A. GEMMELL, M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., Liverpool, Consultant for Obstetrics.
- R. H. RICHMOND, O.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S., Stoke-on-Trent, and
- J. GARDINER WIGLEY, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Hale, Cheshire, Consultants for Puerperal Pyrexia.
- BRUCE MACLEAN, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Newcastle, Staffs, Consultant Physician, Isolation Hospital.

B—Others.

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

- H. Y. STAZICKER (1, 2 and 3) Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts (Whole-time).
- W. HAZELDINE (4) Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time).
- R. E. PLATT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time).
- J. L. MOXON (1 and 3) Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time).
- E. A. BAGGULEY (1 and 3) Temporary Junior District Sanitary Inspector (whole-time). Commenced Nov., 1941.
- J. W. CROWCROFT (4) Temporary District Sanitary Inspector, (whole-time). Resigned 26th September, 1941.
- W. S. ASTALL Sanitary Inspector's Assistant (whole-time).
- J. L. STRINGER Sanitary Inspector's Assistant (whole-time).

HEALTH VISITORS AND NURSES.

M. ROUEN (5 and 6).

E. WILSON (6).

E. J. JACKSON (5 and 6) to 7th October, 1941.

J. MANNING (5 and 6) from 13th November, 1941.

CLERICAL STAFF.

R. W. LEACH and MISS E. SHEPLEY, Clerks in Medical Officer's Dept.

T. C. SIMPSON and J. B. HARDMAN, Clerks in Sanitary Inspector's Office.

Isolation Hospital.

Matron (D. WILLIAMS) Sister, Nurses, Maids, Ambulance Driver, Porter, Gardener.

Maternity Home.

Matron (M. E. WALTON) Sister, Midwives, Maids, Gardener.

- (1) *Member Royal Sanitary Institute.*
- (2) *Member Institute of Cleansing Superintendents .*
- (3) *Member Sanitary Inspector's Association.*
- (4) *Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.*
- (5) *Certificate Central Midwives Board.*
- (6) *General Trained Nurse.*

MEMBERS OF STAFF AT PRESENT SERVING WITH H.M. FORCES.

C. BENNETT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector.
Joined H.M. Forces 16th October, 1939.

D. W. COOKE (4) Temporary Sanitary Inspector's Assistant
Joined H.M. Forces 14th July, 1939.

R. S. BAKER, Clerk.
Joined H.M. Forces 25th September, 1939.

A. J. LAWTON, Clerk.
Joined H.M. Forces 31st May, 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Maternity and
Child Welfare Committees.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the Health Conditions in the Borough of Crewe during the year 1941.

For reasons of economy the report has been abbreviated as much as possible, and for security reasons no figures of population are given.

Area.	... ..	4414 acres.
Rateable Value	... ..	£254,903
Sums Represented by Penny Rate.	... ..	£982

Births and Deaths.

The live birth rate in 1941 was 16.2 per 1000 of the population and 1940 it was 16.6 per 1000. Still births in 1941 represented 3.2% of the total births. The birth rate in England and Wales was 14.1 per 1000 in 1941.

The Infantile Mortality was 55.7 per 1000 births in 1941 and 66.09 per 1000 in 1940. In England and Wales the Infantile Mortality was 59.

The death rate per 1000 of the population was 13.9 in 1941 and 16.6 in 1940. The death rate for England and Wales was 12.9 per 1000.

Poor Law Relief.

I am indebted to Mr. G. H. Atkinson, Clerk of the Guardians Committee, for the following information.

	Half Year ending 1941	
	31st March	30th Sept.
Number of indoor poor relieved.		
Not able bodied	107	73
Insane	7	2
Children	11	18
Number of outdoor poor relieved in the Borough.	615	576
Cost of outdoor relief	£3957	£3629
Number of vagrants relieved	2	—

Laboratory Facilities.

Municipal Laboratory	1941	
	Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria	15	235
Sputum for Tubercle bacilli	2	15
Cerebro-spinal fluid	—	—
Pus for gonococci	1	—
County Council Scheme.		
Sputum for Tubercle bacilli	19	99

Maternity and Child Welfare,

Ante-Natal Clinic.

During 1941, 13 expectant mothers attended.

Post -natal Clinic.

In 1941, one mother attended.

Maternity Home.

Admissions during 1941 numbered 305, of whom 61 came from addresses outside the Borough.

Of these cases 226 were attended by a medical man, and 79 by the Midwives of the Home.

The average duration of stay was 12.6 days.

258 expectant mothers made 1050 visits in 1941.

One case of puerperal infection occurred, which was transferred to the Isolation Hospital.

The number of cases admitted as Emergencies was 32.

Work of Health Visitors.

						1941
Visits under 1 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	2540
Re-Visits 1-5 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	3625
Visits to illegitimate infants	...	...	...	...	...	23
First visits to Ante-natal cases	...	...	...	...	...	51
Re-Visits to Ante-natal cases	...	...	...	...	...	14
Visits to Stillbirths ...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Visits to cases of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	71
Special Visits	...	...	...	...	...	46
Lost Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1169

Babies sleeping alone were 98.6% in 1941.

Babies breast fed entirely at the time of the first visit were 67.5%¹ in 1941, and 74% in 1940.

Work of Welfare Centre.

				Attendances	Consultations
Ludford Street Centre	...	...	...	2259	1248
St. John's Centre	...	...	...	2547	1099

Boarded-out Children.

The number of boarded out children on the register at the end of 1941 was 18.

Orthopaedic Cases.

The number of children under school age who attended the Orthopaedic Centre in 1941 was 38 and in 1940 the number was 57.

Infectious and Other Diseases.**DIPHTHERIA :**

In 1941 the number of cases notified was 58.

The ages of children protected against diphtheria in 1941 were :

0-1	5	4-5	69	8-9	12
1-2	61	5-6	67	9-10	15
2-3	71	6-7	23	10-11	14
3-4	64	7-8	33	11-12	6
				12 and over	17

In addition 3590 children of school age were immunised at the schools.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified in 1941 was 42.

Other Diseases.

In 1941 eight cases of para-typhoid fever were notified and seven cases of cerebro-spinal fever.

Isolation Hospital.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Enteric Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Others	Total
In Hospital at end of 1940	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Admitted during 1941...	31	58	2	1	3	8	5	23	131
Total	31	61	2	1	3	8	5	23	134
Discharged 1941	30	55	2	1	2	7	3	21	121
Died 1941	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	6
In Hospital at end of 1941	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	7

Sanitary Inspections.

Nature and Number of Inspections made.	Number	No. of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecut's	
		Informal	Statutory	Notices complied with	Remaining in hand	Instit'd	Pending
1 Dwelling Houses ...	90	89	2	57	34	...	...
2 Dwelling Houses (Inspection under Housing Act, 1936) ...	89	84	49	75	58	...	...
3 Back-to-back Houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ...	30	1	...	1	...	...	...
5 Verminous Houses... ..	124	12	...	12	...	...	...
6 Privy Pails, Ashpails, etc	943	311	70	346	35	...	...
7 Courts, Yards & Passages	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 House Drainage	1128	237	76	313	...	...	...
9 Ditches, Water Courses, etc	59	13	1	14	...	...	...
10 Offensive Accumulations ...	19	7	...	7	...	...	...
11 Keeping of Animals	2	2	...	2	...	...	...
12 Offensive Trades	21	24	...	24	...	...	...
13 (a) Slaughterhouses	463	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other places where food is sold	1183	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Piggeries	35	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 (a) Cowsheds	170	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Dairies & Milkshops ...	227	} 110		110	1	...	...
16 (a) Factories (with Mechanical Power) ...	41	1	...	1	...	...	...
(b) Factories (with no Mechanical Power) ...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers Premises...	4	18	...	18	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses	110	44	...	44	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses	165	7	...	7	...	...	...
19 Shops under Shops Acts ...	189	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21 Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inquiries and Re-visits ...	970	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Inspections under the Housing Act 1936 (Overcrowding)	20	1	...	1	...	...	...
23 Inspections re Salvage	2847	...	...	...	...	...	...
24 Miscellaneous	946	2	...	2	...	...	...
25 Re-inspections	491	...	...	...	...	...	...
26 Milk Samples :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
for Sediment Test	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 Samples under Food and Drugs Act	157	...	...	...	...	1	...
TOTAL	10571	963	199	1034	128	1	...

Inspection and Supervision of Food.



MILK SUPPLY.

Number of cowsheds occupied for production of milk in the
Borough at the present time 51

Number of cowsheds up to the standard required by this
Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies Order 1926. 49

Number of cowsheds at present where the work of bringing
these up to the standard required by this Local Authority
under the Milk and Dairies Order 1926 in accordance with
Statutory Notices and Lists of recommendations from this
Department is in hand —

Number of cowsheds which have not yet been brought up to
the standard required by this Local Authority under the
Milk and Dairies Order 1926 in accordance with Statutory
Notices and Lists of recommendations from this Dept. ... 2

Inspection of Registered Premises.

397 inspections of registered premises were made by the
Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

Retail Purveyors of Milk.

197 persons are registered to sell milk within the Borough from
premises and vehicles and 122 are registered for the sale of sealed
bottled milk only, making a total of 324 registered retail pur-
veyors of milk.

Milk Sampling.

Milk sampling for bacteriological examination has not been
resumed but 6 samples were taken and tested for sediment, all
proving to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of inspections of Slaughterhouses made during the
year. 463

Number of inspections of premises where food is stored or
prepared or kept for sale. 1183

Number of inspections of bakehouses. 110

The Ministry of Food have continued to use the Co-operative Society Slaughterhouse as the No. 1 Depot during an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, they also took over 2 other private slaughterhouses for a short period.

The following is a tabulated statement of the types of animals slaughtered and inspected, together with particulars of diseases found necessitating complete or partial condemnation :

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	1115	1682	7227	9913	4315
*Number inspected ...	1119	1797	7234	10302	4426
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	14	33	13	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	132	270	48	355	152
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	11.80%	15.80%	1.12%	3.57%	3.46%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcases condemned ...	4	55	6	...	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	171	449	...	...	466
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	15.64%	28.04%	0.09%	...	10.66%

NOTE—*These figures include additional animals slaughtered outside the Borough but inspected here.

Lbs.

DISEASE

DISEASE	Beef	Pork	Mutt'n	Veal	Rabbit and Po'ltry	Bacon & Ham	Sa'sage Cook'd Meat	Fish	Eggs	Fruit & Veg.	Butter & Che's	Pres.	Tinn'd Foods	Misc.	Total
Tuberculosis.	46346	7739	...	204	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54489
Septicaemia	780	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	845
Fever	1262	...	...	64	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1326
Fever & Emaciation...	1348	...	...	75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1423
Dropsy	2462	...	164	128	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2754
Abscesses	1417	44	92	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1596
Actinomycosis	135	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Pleurisy & Pneumonia	236	163	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399
Parasites & Cysts	1999	321	755	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3158
Cirrhosis	2209	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2215
Congestion	123	68	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195
Fatty Degeneration	160	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Cavernous Angioma	156	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Pericarditis	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Nephritis	66	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Necrosis	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Moribund	...	...	50	137	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Immaturity	...	...	40	114	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Emaciation	...	...	46	398	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	444
Asphyxiation	...	...	30	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Umbilical Pyaemia...	...	...	...	94	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Gastritis	...	...	...	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Injury...	2142	456	113	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2739
Decomposition	7050	895	393	63	260	655	797	653	724	2189	506	334	990	529	16038
TOTAL	68139	9757	1689	1632	260	655	797	653	724	2189	506	334	990	529	88854

Total Weight of Food Condemned - 88,854 lbs. - 39 Tons, 13 cwts, 38 lbs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following samples were taken during the year :

Milk (89); Butter (5); Margarine (6); Lard (2); Lard Substitute (2); Dripping (1); Sugar (4); Tea (3); Cheese (1); Coffee (1); Pepper (3); Baking Powder (1); Bacon (1); Zinc Ointment (1); Borax and Honey (1); Iodine Ointment (1); Cooking Fat (1); Custard Powder (2); Shredded Beef Suet (1); Cream Mould (1); Egg Powder (2); Pearl Barley (1); Mustard (1); Influenza Powder (1); Rice (3); Batter Self-Raising Flour (1); Self-Raising-Flour (1); Tomato Soup Powder (1); Castor Oil (1); Olive Oil (1); Aspirin Tablets (1); Mint in Vinegar (1); Tinned Diced Carrots (1); Tinned Peas (1); Cocoa (1); Camphor, Mustard & other oils (1); Vinegar (1); Raspberry Vinegar and Olive oil (1); Plain Flour (1); Fluid Magnesia (1); Sausages (2); Hax Tea Savers (1); Fish Cake (1); Bread (1); Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (1); Biscuits (1); Tinned Mixed Vegetables (1). Total 158.

I give below particulars of the samples adulterated or otherwise not up to standard :

Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks.
Margarine	Improperly labelled	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	4% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned.
Rice	Contained 0.5% Tapioca	Subsequent sample proved genuine.
Milk	6% deficient of its fat	Vendor warned Subsequent sample proved genuine.
Milk	Containing 1% of added water	Vendor warned Subsequent sample proved genuine.
Milk	Contained 2% of added water	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	18% deficient of its fat.	Sample in course of delivery found to be 9% deficient in fat. Sample in course of delivery to this Vendor found to be 6% deficient of its fat. Vendor warned.

Sample	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
Milk	1% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned. Subsequent sample proved genuine.
Milk	4% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned. Subsequent sample proved genuine.
Milk	9% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned.
Milk	14% of added water	Proceedings instituted. Vendor fined £5.
Milk	20% deficient of its fat	Informal Sample Subsequent samples proved genuine.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Corporation maintain five ambulances, two for the conveyance of infectious disease cases and three for non-infectious cases and accidents.

The total number of journeys made during the year was 1,162 and the distance covered was 26,210 miles.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The refuse collection service was maintained throughout the year satisfactorily. 11 motor vehicles (including 3 spares) are used for the collection of household refuse and trade refuse, 1 for the collection of nightsoil and 1 for refuse disposal.

Amount of Household refuse collected	...	...	9479 tons.
Amount of Garden refuse collected	...	...	45 tons.
Amount of Trade refuse collected	...	...	396 tons.

3,727 tons of shop and factory refuse were also brought to the Works for disposal, making a total of 13647 tons of refuse dealt with during the year. 10131 tons or 72.4% passed through the Works, the remainder being disposed of by controlled tipping.

The estimated amount of nightsoil collected was 376 tons, and included collections from A.R.P. shelters and posts and military sites.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council Houses found to be infested	...	0
Number of Council House disinfested	... ..	0
Number of other houses found to be infested	... ..	12
Number of other houses disinfested	... ..	12

The work of disinfection was carried out by employees of the Corporation under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors, and the houses were sprayed with patent fumigant solutions from pressure sprayers. In addition to the above, ten houses were treated for beetles, eight of these being Corporation houses.

Factories and Workplaces.

During the year, 74 inspections were made of factories and workplaces.

16 lists were received from makers of wearing apparel relating to 4 outworkers.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 4 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, and the following table shows the number of persons who used the same during 1941, with comparative figures for the two preceding years

	Adults.		Children.	
	Males	Females	Males	Females.
1941	... 15304	963	—	112
1940	... 16098	1171	—	—
1939	... 15977	1372	—	—

These premises are inspected regularly to ensure compliance with relative legislation, 165 such inspections being made during 1941.

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried out in the Borough : Rag and Bone Dealers—2; Gut Scraper—1; Fat Melter—1; There is also 1 Knacker's Yard in the Borough.

Pig Keepers.

The number of persons keeping pigs on the premises in the Borough is 66.

Rag Flock.

There are no premises in the Borough at which Rag Flock is manufactured but it is sold and used on 4 premises.

Schools.

The water supply and sanitary conveniences of the elementary schools in the Borough are satisfactory.

Housing Statistics.

Number of New Houses erected during the year.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under b.)	
1. By the Local Authority	122
2. By other Local Authorities	—
3. By other bodies and persons	57

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.**By the Local Authority :**

1. Under the Housing Act 1925	—
2. Under the Housing Act 1930	—
3. Under the Housing Act 1936	—
4. For other purposes	—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts).	173
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	179
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	84
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	89

- (3) Number of dwelling house found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. —
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonable fit for human habitation 173

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 94

3. Action under Statutory Power during the year.

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 49

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners 21

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(c) Number of houses in respect of which Notices requiring repairs were served prior to 1940 but were rendered fit during 1940 32

- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after services of formal notices :

(a) By owners 1

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | — |
| (3) Number of Undertaking to carry out works in lieu of demolition accepted by the Council | — |

4. Housing Act 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 46 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 50 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 397 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | — |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | — |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | — |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | — |

Yours faithfully,

J. D. INGRAM.

Medical Officer of Health.